In the Claims

12. (previously presented) A Bragg reflector comprising:

one or more first layers adjacent one or more second layers, the first and second layers having at least one sidewall, wherein the first and second layers define one or more gaps; and

a support layer formed over a portion of the sidewalls to support the second layers against collapse into the one or more gaps.

13. (original) The Bragg reflector of claim 12 wherein the second layers and the support layer comprise substantially the same material.

14. (original) The Bragg reflector of claim 12 wherein at least a portion of the support layer is electrically conductive.

15. (previously presented) The Bragg reflector of claim 12 wherein a portion of the support layer is electrically non-conductive.

16. (original) A distributed Bragg reflector comprising:

a substrate;

a plurality structure layers on the substrate each spaced apart by a gap, the structure layers each having edges; and

a support layer about a portion of the edges for supporting the structure layers.

17. (original) The distributed Bragg reflector of claim 16 further comprising sacrificial layers between the structure layers, the sacrificial layers undercut to define the gaps.

18. (original) The distributed Bragg reflector of claim 16 wherein the support layer comprises a material selected from the group consisting of InP, GaAs, and Si.

19. (original) The distributed Bragg reflector of claim 16 wherein the structure layers comprise a material selected from the group consisting of InP, GaAs, and Si

20. (original) The distributed Bragg reflector of claim 16 wherein the support layer covers at least a portion of a top of the structure layers.